

GRANT ROAD/SYLVAN AREA NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING REPORT

Responses to Issues Raised at the August 26, 2004
Council Neighborhood Committee Meeting

Presented below are the City's responses to various issues and concerns raised at the August 26, 2004 Council Neighborhood Committee meeting with the Grant Road / Sylvan Area. If you have further questions about any of the following responses, please contact the responsible Department at the phone numbers noted below. General questions can be directed to Linda Lauzze, the City's Administrative and Neighborhood Services Manager, at (650) 903-6379.

CITY MANAGERS OFFICE – (650) 903-6301

1. *Would the Mountain View-Whisman School District receive more money if the City did not renew the special development zone for North Bayshore/Shoreline?*

The Mountain View-Whisman School District would not necessarily receive more money if the Shoreline Regional Park Community District did not exist. Currently, State aid to the School District is greater than the amount the School District would receive if the Shoreline Community District did not exist. The amount of State funding that currently goes to the School District would be reduced dollar for dollar by the amount gained in the absence of the Shoreline Community District. The Mountain View-Whisman School District would not see any net benefit or gain from this change and all residents in Mountain View would lose the significant City wide benefits made possible by the revenues of the Shoreline Regional Park Community District.

2. *What is the status of using Moffett Field as an airport for private aviation?*

There is no plan to change Moffett Field from a protected federal airfield into a private/or general aviation field. NASA is on record and it is stated Council policy that the airfield should remain a secure federal airfield.

3. *Utility bill mailing started wasting a lot of paper in the past few months. I pay my bill electronically by automatic debiting of my checking account. Until recently, I got a multiple-fold statement, which was designed to alleviate the need for envelopes and told me how much I owed and when my account would be debited. Suddenly, I get an envelope including a separate piece of paper (telling me the same thing) and enclosing a second envelope, which is not needed, since my bill is paid automatically. This is wasting taxpayer's money.*

The City was aware of this issue and had changed the billing process to no longer include return envelopes for customers who make their payment through automatic debits. Bills are sent every two months and your next bill should not contain the extra envelope. Please contact the Finance Department at (650) 903-6316 if you continue to have this problem.

4. *CitySeek is not useful. We have been promised improvements for years. When will it be fixed?*

There is a consensus that CitySeek is not as user friendly as the City would like. When significant issues were identified with the use of CitySeek the City added the agenda and staff reports directly to the website. Additionally, staff has been working on selecting a product to replace CitySeek and are coming to the end of that effort. It is anticipated that the CitySeek replacement should be ready for use by December.

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE – (650) 903-6303

1. *What if anything, does the City code specify about cleaning up after dogs? When I run around bare foot, or guests come to my home, there is a high risk of stepping in dog feces. This is “unneighborly”, if not illegal. What can be done to let dog owners know what is their responsibility? They may not know.*

Mountain View City Code Section 5.58 prohibits dog owners from permitting his or her dog to defecate upon public property or the private property of another without immediately removing the fecal matter from such property. In terms of educating the offending parties, the city code is available on the City's website at www.ci.mtnview.ca.us. In addition, the city publishes the View three times a year and an article could be included in the View.

2. *What is the code regarding obstruction of sidewalks? As a walker, I find shrubs as much as ½ way across the sidewalk and so-called “sidewalk basketball” nets completely blocking the sidewalks. Please encourage our citizens to keep the sidewalks clear!*

Two different code sections address the issues raised by this question. Code Enforcement works with the Forestry Division to address overgrown shrubbery. As to the basketball hoops, Mountain View City Code Section 27.11 prohibits the obstruction of city sidewalks for more than an hour. Please report any specific violations and their locations to the Code Enforcement Division at (650) 526-7713.

3. *I am a 30-year resident at this address. Over time, the Carmelita and Martens loop has increasingly taken on the appearance of East Palo Alto (huge RV's, defunct boats or trailers, large rented moving containers, yards filled with parked cars – some non-operational, yards consisting exclusively of weeds, and trash cans left on the street semi-permanently). How are City residents being informed of what the City codes require? It is possible some current residents do not know about City codes. I hate seeing my neighborhood continue to degrade and would love to see it turn around.*

The City of Mountain View does have ordinances addressing the appearance of property. MVCC Section 25.4 covers overgrown vegetation and the storage of equipment, debris and appliances in the front yard. MVCC Section 25.6 prohibits the storage of inoperable and unregistered vehicles. . If you observe any such violations, please report these violations and their location to the Code Enforcement Division at (650) 526-7713. The Code Enforcement

Division, in conjunction with the Police Department, has scheduled an inspection of some properties in this area to address the above concerns.

In terms of educating the offending parties about the City Code, the City Code is available on the City's website at www.ci.mtnview.ca.us. In addition, the city publishes the View three times a year and an article could be included in the View.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6306

- 1. It is my understanding that the area I live in used to be in the County (Sleeper, Franklin, and Diericx) and has a zoning ordinance requirement of no more than 50% front yard coverage for hardscape (paving, driveways, etc.). There are several new driveways in the neighborhood that clearly exceed this 50% coverage. What can the City do to enforce the existing zoning for the neighborhood? It appears that the landscaping requirements for front yards are not consistently enforced.*

The City of Mountain View Zoning Ordinance requires that 50% of the required front setback area be permanently landscaped. In addition, other regulations govern driveways and setbacks. Code Enforcement is currently studying all the applicable regulations to develop a uniform approach for the enforcement of these regulations. You may report suspected zoning violations to the Code Enforcement Division at (650) 526-7713.

- 2. Is there anything being done about rats in Mountain View? We have had a big problem in our yard causing us to trim out all of our landscaping and ground cover.*

The Santa Clara County Mosquito and Vector Control District handles problems with rats. To find out whether they have any programs that might help private property owners, please call their office at (408) 299-2050. You may also want to consider private extermination companies who may be able to help you with this problem.

- 3. We desperately need a drugstore (Longs, Walgreens) or market (Safeway, Nob Hill) Downtown on or near Castro Street. Where Downtown can you buy Tylenol or camera batteries? I had to get in my car and drive to Longs on El Monte when my camera batteries died minutes before the Mountain View children's parade!*

In 2001, the City Council adopted the Downtown Retail Recruitment Strategy. One of the Strategy priorities is to locate a grocery store and/or drug store in the downtown. Staff has been actively working with retail real estate brokers and promoting the downtown to try to attract a grocery or drug store. The City has had some interest from stores, but the difficulty has been finding a good location, right size space, and reasonable rent. Brokers have also noted that potential businesses have some concern whether there is a strong enough market to support these types of stores in the downtown.

Recently, the City Council approved the design plans for a second downtown parking structure. It will be located at the corner of California and Bryant Streets and will be completed in 2006. The structure will accommodate about 420 cars and includes a 14,000

square foot retail space. The Council has directed that the City use this retail space to attract a small grocery and/or drug store to the downtown.

4. *How can we get a Whole Foods kind of grocery store into Mountain View? I am tired of driving out-of-town.*

As you may already be aware, a Whole Foods grocery store was recently approved by the City of Los Altos. It will be located at the intersection of Showers Drive and El Camino Real on the boundary of Mountain View and Los Altos, so it will be easily assessable to Mountain View residents.

The City of Mountain View did have discussions with representative of Whole Foods and worked hard to get Whole Foods into our community. The size of a Whole Foods store is approximately 45,000 – 55,000 square feet, plus they need adequate outdoor space for parking, garbage, and loading space. They also wanted a site with high visibility and traffic. The City was unable to find an available site in Mountain View that met their criteria.

5. *Could you distribute the minutes of the neighborhood meeting via e-mail or place them on the web?*

The minutes of the neighborhood meetings are a compilation of the questions from the comment cards and written responses to those questions, and this is called the Meeting Report. The Meeting Reports for the CNC neighborhood meetings are available on the City of Mountain View web site at www.ci.mtnview.ca.us and can be found under the Community Development Department and Neighborhoods Division. Meeting Reports are usually completed and then posted to the web site about two months after the neighborhood meeting. If you are having difficulty finding a report, please contact the Neighborhood Preservation Division at (650) 903-6379.

6. *The new childcare center at Dana and Moorpark. Painting it multi-colors does not fit into the neighborhood. It should be painted one or two tasteful colors.*

The colors for the childcare center were chosen by the applicant and are intended to reflect the playful nature of a childcare use. These colors were reviewed by the City's Development Review Committee and significantly toned down from the applicant's original submittal. The Committee approved the final colors currently painted on the building recognizing that the site is isolated from the larger neighborhood and there is a mix of uses in the area.

7. *Whose idea was it to put a day care center adjacent to a freeway, when a majority of asthma sufferers and leukemia victims can be traced to particulate matter in the air?*

The childcare center was reviewed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CEQA guidelines have thresholds of significance for air quality that have been set forth by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and other agencies. The daycare facility was evaluated under these standards and determined not to have significant impacts related to air quality.

8. *Are there any plans for the old Emporium site?*

The Palo Alto Medical Foundation and Camino Medical Group have applied for planning approval to redevelop the Emporium site with a 250,000 square foot medical facility. Public hearings are scheduled for September and October and it is anticipated that this project will be acted on by the City Council sometime in November. The application and plans for this proposal are available for review at the Community Development Department at 500 Castro Street. If you would like to be on the mailing list please call the Planning Department at (650) 903-6306.

9. *Regarding the new construction of El Camino Hospital, are they using any green or sustainable building methods? These make for a healthier indoor environment.*

A representative of El Camino Hospital, who attended the neighborhood meeting, said they are reviewing different green building materials and methods that may be incorporated into their building design.

10. *The City of San Jose uses the L.E.E.D. standard to rate the sustainability of new buildings. Does Mountain View use this standard too?*

No, the City of Mountain View currently does not use these standards.

11. *What are the future construction hours for the El Camino Hospital project? Will you adhere to them?*

By City ordinance, construction activities cannot begin before 7:00 a.m. or continue past 6:00 p.m. on weekdays. Construction activities are prohibited on the weekend. The Building Official may grant an occasional exception to these hours if there are extraordinary circumstances.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6331

1. *Sylvan Park*

- *There is no shade at Sylvan Park. The solution would be to plant at least 100 trees, especially near the playground.*
- *We need more shade trees around the play areas and benches.*
- *Need more shade trees and benches in Sylvan Park.*

Since 2003, 16 new trees have been planted at Sylvan Park. Of those trees, 5-red maple trees were planted as replacement trees near the newly renovated tot lot to provide more shade. Staff is continuing to replace trees at the park that have not performed in accordance with the

original design including the proposed replacement of 5 trees near the trellis area located to the north of the restroom facility. Other trees will be planted at the park in the future

There are currently 9 benches, 6 picnic tables and 8 game tables located at Sylvan Park. Most of the outdoor furniture, e.g. benches and tables etc., are part of the original design of the park. Since the park's opening, however, some modifications have been made near the tot lot area to provide better visibility of the site. An additional bench has also been installed. Staff will continue to monitor the needs of park users to determine if more benches are required at the park.

2. *There is an issue using Round-up in parks where there are children playing. When Sylvan Park was sprayed, was there notice? Why wasn't the area roped off? Aren't there greener methods of landscaping? Is there any consideration for children playing in a chemical soup?*

The turf maintenance work at Sylvan Park is aimed at eradicating Kikuyu grass. This is a warm season grass that is very aggressive and can have a detrimental effect on other types of turf and irrigation systems. Treating the problem requires complete removal through the application of a systemic Class III pesticide referred to as Round-Up, followed by an aggressive reseeding program. The objective is to reduce the spread of Kikuyu grass to other parks and landscape areas in the city.

Pesticide use and application in all City parks is approved in advance by a qualified Pesticide Advisor. Work is done in the very early morning hours prior to arrival of park visitors, with staff remaining on site until the product has had a chance to dry (usually 2-hours after it is applied). According to manufacturers specifications, the treated area is safe to reenter after the product has dried and been absorbed by the plant. The work area is also marked by the placement of small flags in the turf signifying that a pesticide has been applied.

As a result of this input received at the meeting, the following new guidelines have been since been put into effect.

- ☐ Advance public notice (posted signs) 4-days minimum before commencement of work.
- ☐ Area to be cordoned off with stakes and yellow caution tape prior to, during and after treatment.
- ☐ Ground flags are to be installed as the area is treated.
- ☐ Treated areas are to remain closed and cordoned off until irrigated.
- ☐ Removal of the stakes, yellow tape and ground flags is permitted only after the above conditions have been met.

Staff feels that these guidelines will help improve the level of information provided to the public as it relates to the use of pesticides in our parks.

3. *What happened to the large trees on the Huff School campus near the YMCA portables (why were they cut down)? Was this a City or School District action?*

The Mountain View-Whisman School District removed 3-Mulberry trees on the northeast side of the Huff School campus as one tree was split (structurally unsound), another was termite infested and dying, and the third tree was dead. Four Chinese pistache trees have since been replanted in the approximate area of the trees removed.

4. *Any plans for the open area on Cuesta Avenue next to Cuesta Park?*

At this time, there are no long-term plans for the Cuesta Annex. Although many uses have been proposed, in 1998 the City Council adopted a policy that the Annex would remain undeveloped until such time as a master plan for the site can be completed. The timing for development of such a master plan has not yet been determined.

5. *The sidewalk along Sylvan Avenue is not maintained by the City and there is a problem with the ground cover*

City crews are responsible for maintenance of the planter strips between 410 and 464 Sylvan Avenue. By design, the planter strips closest to Sylvan Park (Glenbrough Drive) are maintained by the nearby homeowners association. City staff performs maintenance such as weeding and litter removal in this area on a monthly basis. A recent inspection of the planter strips maintained by the City indicates that a portion of the ground cover (clumping gazania) is in need of replacement. This work will be scheduled for October.

6. *Farm on Grant and Levin (Community Services and Community Development Departments)*

- *What are the plans for developing the farm land at the Corner of Grant Road and Levin Avenue?*
- *What is the status of the farm on Grant and Levin? Is the property going to be sold for R-1 residential? Is it going to be divided? If so, how? Will Levin Avenue be closed off at Grant and Levin, if the property is developed?*
- *I noticed in the newspaper that the owner of the farm at Levin and Grant Road passed away recently. Does the City know whether the farm that is visited by many children and sell fresh produce will continue to stay in operation?*
- *What can be done to maintain the open space at the “farm”, since I understand it may be sold shortly?*
- *What will be done with the land at the corner of Levin and Grant? A suggestion would be to have a park plus retain a portion of the current “farm” for a pumpkin patch, fresh fruits and vegetables and some fields to continue the “seasonal” nature of the site.*

- *What has the City done or what can be done to ensure that the Grant Road “pumpkin patch” continues as a farm? .*
- *Please use the City Council influence to preserve the small farm at the corner of Grant Road and Levin Avenue.*
- *Is the City going to act proactively to preserve at least some piece of the Grant Road/Levin farm as open space/a farm/community gardens? If not, why not? What can Mountain View citizens do to encourage such action so that it benefits the sellers and the residents?*

The 15.6-acre site located at the corner of Grant Road and Levin Avenue, more commonly known as the “farm” or the “pumpkin patch”, is actually located outside the Mountain View City limits in unincorporated Santa Clara County. It is within the City’s urban service area boundaries, and therefore, would need to be annexed into the City of Mountain View before the property could be developed. The property is pre-zoned R1-8L single-family residential (minimum 8,000 square foot lots) and has a General Plan land use designation of Low Density Residential (1-6 units per acre). If the farmland is developed, the street Plan Line indicates that Levin Avenue will be realigned to intersect Grant Road opposite Covington Road.

This property is privately owned and the current owners have not communicated with the City about their intentions for the property and whether they will continue to operate the farm. The City has not received any applications or plans for this property. Should the property owners want to develop the site for low density housing, this would require that they first go through the process to annex into Mountain View through the Santa Clara County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). If the property were subdivided for housing, this would require a City Council public hearing for approval of the tentative subdivision map, which would include consideration of parkland dedication requirements.

There are several City policy documents that address the farm property: the City’s 2002 General Plan Housing Element and the Parks and Open Space Plan. Both of these documents have been reviewed and adopted by the City Council. The Housing Element establishes City policies for adequate housing for the community and the Parks and Open Space Plan establishes policies for the community’s open space needs. Action 2.a of the Housing Element states:

- 2.a Retain the following two sites for single-family residential development with retention of appropriate areas for open space.
 - Greenhouse at Marilyn Avenue
 - Southeast corner of Grant Road and Levin Avenue.

Mountain View adopted an updated Parks and Open Space Plan (Plan) in 2001. The Plan represents a comprehensive review of open space needs for the City of Mountain View. It offers a long-term vision to guide decisions related to park and open space resources

and a detailed evaluation of current needs in the City and its neighborhoods. The Plan contains prioritized recommendations for the acquisition, improvement and preservation of parks and open space. However, the Plan presents a more detailed view of publicly held lands than those in private ownership.

Prior to adoption of the Plan, both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council discussed the City's position related to several large, privately held open space areas in the City. Given the fiscal challenge of acquiring these areas through fair market value acquisition, the City has adopted a position of supporting those who might have other ways or means to preserve these sites. The Plan contains a brief discussion of "Other Private and Public Open Space" on pages 22 and 23 that reads:

The several large parcels of land in the City that still remain in agriculture or open space use are another type of private open space in Mountain View. These types of properties, although held in private ownership, are valuable assets. They provide visual respite from the urban environment, and represent the last remnants of the City's agricultural past. They serve as a reminder of what the Santa Clara Valley once looked like.

Where possible, the City should support efforts by other agencies, private organizations or non-profits to preserve agricultural lands if they become available. Some possible methods of preservation are long-term conservation easements, donations by property owners, partnerships with private or public agencies, formation of a non-profit organization and partial acquisitions.

There is also a recommendation in the Plan regarding "Preserving Existing Open Space" that reads as follows:

Where possible, support efforts by other agencies, private organizations and/or nonprofits to preserve a portion or all of Mountain View's agricultural lands as permanent open space use, if they become available.

The Plan evaluates the need for open space in 10 planning areas of the City. The Grant/Levin parcel is located in the Grant Planning Area. Current open space in this planning area is primarily located at three school sites – Huff and Cooper Elementary (currently closed) and Mountain View High. The City at present maintains the open play areas at Huff and Cooper in exchange for use as public open space. No such agreement, however, exists between the City and High School District for shared use of the open space at Mountain View High School.

Open space needs in the community (more specifically in neighborhoods) are weighed (among other criteria) by an established standard of providing 3.0 acres of open space for every 1,000 residents. In the Grant Planning Area, the ratio of available open space is 10.1 acres per 1,000. If the open space at Mountain View High School is not included, the ratio drops to 3.7 acres per 1,000, which is still above the desired 3.0 acre standard. The Plan concludes that while the Grant Planning Area is not deficient in parks and open space, the large amount of land owned by the School District increases the need for other

open space opportunities. Further, the potential expansion of the Stevens Creek Trail into the Grant Planning Area would increase the access of this area to other park and open space facilities in the City.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6311

1. *Sylvan Avenue entrance to Highway 237 needs landscaping. Can the City work with CalTrans to get this done?*

The City would also like Caltrans to landscape this area and other sections of freeways in the City. However, Caltrans does not have funds for landscaping at this time. When economic conditions change and Caltrans proposes to landscape freeways, we will request this area be included.

2. *What mosquito abatement efforts are underway in Mountain View, either City and/or County efforts?*

Mosquito abatement is handled by the Santa Clara County Mosquito and Vector Control District. They may be reached at 408-792-5010.

3. *Last winter men walked along the street checking and marking which houses still had lead pipes at the street junction. They told me mine and a few others still do. I have now read that chloramine is not believed to be posing a hazard to residents – unless they have lead pipes. I was told the lead pipes were under consideration to be replaced. Is this scheduled? If so, when will it be done? If not, why not?*

In reviewing the City of Mountain View utility bill for the homeowner, a charge for water was not shown on their City utility bill, indicating water service is provided by the California Water Service Company, rather than the City. To find out about the status of the lead pipes, the homeowner may wish to contact California Water Service Company for further information at 650-917-0152.

4. *Why are street cleaning days the same day as garbage days? (Cars are off the street but not all garbage cans, so streets are not completely swept).*

Public Works and Public Services staff will be reanalyzing street sweeping schedules to determine if there is any adjustment that can be made to resolve this concern. If such action is possible, residents will be notified prior to the change.

5. *Thanks for action on two code violations. However, there have been City of Mountain View orange cones and a street barrier on the side of Diericx Drive (near the Water Company property) for months. The City has been notified with no results.*

This issue was checked by Streets personnel the day following the meeting. The orange cones and street barrier at the above referenced location were placed about two months ago where a street light pole was knocked down by a motorist who lost control of their

vehicle. The specialty replacement pole was ordered at that time. The replacement pole is being installed on September 3, 2004. The cones and barrier will be removed when the wiring is installed and the project complete within the next two weeks.

6. *Water pressure is lower in our condo building than last ten years (1031 Crestview Drive). A City pump or something restricting the flow may be the problem.*

The pressure reading at this location is 61 psi at the nearest fire hydrant. The complex probably loses about 10 psi after the meter and backflow device. The unit in question is on the second floor so there would be additional pressure loss. Attempts were made that day and again on September 2nd to contact the resident, but nobody was home either time. A door hanger was left the second time to advise them of the situation.

7. *Paving of Highway 85 with low noise paving is being considered for the area south of Highway 280. Please have Mountain View lobby and work toward this low noise paving on the area of Highway 85 north of Highway 280 to Highway 101 as a long/medium term goal by working with CalTran.*

The Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), as part of the 1996 Measure B program, tested a one-mile portion of Route 85 by grinding the pavement to determine whether or not tire noise could be reduced. The freeway is paved with grooved Portland cement, which, as the tests revealed, can be improved by grinding. Unfortunately, VTA has placed further work on the roadway surface on the deferred list as there are no funds available. VTA states that when the entire freeway needs to be repaved, it could be done with rubberized concrete, however, that would not occur for decades.

8. *Are we ever going to get a light on Grant Road and Levin?*

The City has no plans to install a traffic signal at the Grant Road/Levin Avenue intersection. Due to the proximity of the traffic signals at Covington Road and South Drive, installing a signal at Levin could create additional congestion along Grant Road, which could divert traffic into the neighborhoods.

Whenever the farmer's field develops, the Precise Plan for this site states Levin Avenue will be realigned through the new development to intersect Grant Road at Covington Road. This will provide a much safer means of access and egress from the neighborhood.

9. *There is a way to somewhat mitigate the Levin/Grant Road problem. Make northbound traffic keep to the left lane, allowing a right turn and merge from Levin onto Grant northbound.*

The City will re-stripe Grant Road as it approaches Levin Avenue from the south in an effort to keep northbound traffic in the left lane. Currently the bike lane striping follows and stays close to the edge of pavement, which widens near Levin Avenue. The re-striping will provide a buffer zone between the bike lane and the through lane and will realign the vehicle lane to head straight and parallel with the double yellow centerline,

thereby directing northbound cars straight ahead and not encouraging them to divert to the right lane at the Levin Avenue intersection.

- 10. There needs to be a way to go, on a bicycle, from Stevens Creek Trail to Central Expressway. Both are major bike routes.*

The City recently completed a connection from Central Expressway to the Stevens Creek Trail. On the north side of the signalized intersection of Central Expressway and the Highway 85 off-ramp, there is now a pathway leading from the intersection to the Trail and Central Expressway overpass. The signalized intersection is equipped with push buttons and signal indications for bicyclists so that the Trail can be accessed from both directions on Central Expressway.

- 11. Regarding the Levin/Grant Road intersection, with the increased enrollment of the Los Altos Covington Avenue School and the speed bumps on Sleeper and Eunice, it is a nightmare getting on or crossing Grant Road. The farm should not be used as an excuse. What can be done to make it easier to get out of the Waverly area? Is it possible to have the police directing traffic in the morning?*

In addition to the striping realignment described in number 9 above, the City will install “Do Not Block Intersection” signs at the Grant Road/Levin Avenue intersection and paint “Keep Clear” legends in the intersection. Because of existing resources and the varying calls and priorities faced by the Police Department, it is not possible to assign an officer to direct traffic at this intersection.

- 12. Highway 85 north through Mountain View to Highway 101 seems slower now with the new ramp at 85/101. When the 85/101 interchange is completed, will this improve?*

The new ramp at the Highway 85/Highway 101 interchange seems slower because this ramp will be an off ramp from Highway 85 to Shoreline Boulevard when the project is complete. Two additional ramps will be constructed – one is a two-lane on-ramp for northbound Highway 85 traffic to Highway 101; the other will connect the carpool lanes on Highway 85 directly with the carpool lanes on Highway 101. These ramps will be constructed with faster design speeds than the existing ramp.

- 13. Is there any feasible way to have a safe crossing from Sleeper Avenue to Cuesta Park directly? Currently, we must cross at Eunice Avenue or Cuesta Drive.*

The signalized intersections at Eunice Avenue and Cuesta Drive are the safest locations to cross Grant Road. The only way to create a safe crossing at Sleeper Avenue is to install a traffic signal at this intersection. However, the proximity of a traffic signal at Sleeper Avenue to the existing traffic signals could create additional congestion on Grant Road and potentially divert traffic into the neighborhood.

- 14. More signage is needed for the 30 MPH speed limit on Sylvan Avenue. For example, (1) a speed limit sign or (2) a painted yellow 30 MPH sign on the asphalt.*

The City's Traffic Engineering staff checked Sylvan Avenue and determined two additional speed limit signs and white painted legends could be installed. This work will be completed in the next 3-4 weeks. If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact Dennis Belluomini, City Traffic Engineer, at (650) 903-6311.

- 15. Is there any plans to address the volume of high speed, hazardous driving of individuals heading to and from Mountain View High School on Bryant and other parallel streets. Congestion at Bryant and Truman has been exacerbated by changes in parking at the school on that corner and has lead traffic to move to side streets.*

The City has no specific plans to address traffic volumes on streets around Mountain View High School. The Police Department has an officer who spends a considerable amount of time at and around the school enforcing traffic laws and talking with students.

The City has a Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) to address speeding problems on local residential streets. To initiate the NTMP process, please submit a petition to the Public Works Department specifying your concern and asking that the NTMP process be initiated to address the problem on your street. The City will obtain traffic speed data to verify the speeding problem. In accordance with the NTMP, if a speeding problem exists, a neighborhood meeting of residents and property owners directly affected by the speeding vehicles is held. The residents and property owners at this neighborhood meeting decide which traffic calming measure(s) will be presented to the neighborhood through a postcard survey to determine the level of support. If two-thirds of the responding residents and property owners support the measure, it will be recommended to the Council Transportation Committee for installation as a demonstration.

Contact Dennis Belluomini, City Traffic Engineer, Mike Vroman, Senior Traffic Engineer, or Peter Skinner, Senior Administrative Analyst, at (650) 903-6311 for more information on the NTMP process or if you have questions about preparing or submitting the petition.

- 16. The new recycling combination bins are horrid! They hold much less paper and you cannot place excess paper in bags on the ground. The drivers put extra paper in the trash. There is frequently bits of recycling matter that spills onto the street and is left there.*

Larger recycling carts are available at no additional charge. Please contact Foothill Disposal at 650-967-3034 to order a larger cart or extra cart. The larger carts are similar in size to the 96-gallon yard waste carts.

17. There is a large pipe that was torn up at Heatherstone and Dale. They are working on it now, but the street is very rough. When is it going to be fixed and smoothed out?

The City is in the midst of a water main project at this location. This project should be completed in early October and the street will be smoothed out by that time.

18. Neighborhood Traffic

- Diericx Drive is used as a raceway for Mountain View High School. Is there any chance of a couple of speed bumps adjacent to the stop sign at Diericx and Fairbrook?*
- What measures will be or can be put in place to address speeding around Mountain View High School especially in the morning, lunchtime, and after school?*
- There is speeding on Sylvan Avenue and speed bumps are needed to slow traffic (three comments).*
- There are speeders on Sylvan Avenue and a solution would be speed bumps near the park. How can we get this going?*
- Who gets to vote on speed bumps on Levin? Only Levin Avenue residents or other street residents also? Since Sleeper Avenue and Eunice Avenue have speed bumps, it would be nice not to have speed bumps on Levin.*

Speed humps are one of several traffic calming measures in the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP). This Program was established to help residents work with City staff to provide traffic relief on local residential streets.

To initiate the NTMP process, please submit a petition to the Public Works Department specifying your concern and asking that the NTMP process address the problem on your street. The City will obtain traffic speed data to verify the speeding problem. In accordance with the NTMP, if a speeding problem exists, a neighborhood meeting of residents and property owners directly affected by the speeding vehicles is held. The residents and property owners at this neighborhood meeting decide which traffic calming measure(s) will be presented to the neighborhood through a postcard survey to determine the level of support. If two-thirds of the responding residents and property owners support the measure, it will be recommended to the Council Transportation Committee for installation as a demonstration.

Contact Dennis Belluomini, City Traffic Engineer, Mike Vroman, Senior Traffic Engineer, or Peter Skinner, Senior Administrative Analyst, at (650) 903-6311 for more information on the NTMP process or if you have questions about preparing or submitting the petition.

Regarding the vote for speed humps on Levin Avenue, residents on Levin Avenue and on the cul-de-sacs off Levin Avenue voted on this issue. Only 35% of the responding residents supported installing speed humps based on a survey conducted in November/December 2003. At least two-thirds (66.7%) of the responding residents must support the traffic calming

measure before its installation will be recommended to the Council Transportation Committee.

19. Grant Road Traffic

- *With the expansion of services at El Camino Hospital, what can be done to avoid additional traffic on Grant Road?*
- *Please comment on the ever increasing traffic on Grant Road, especially at commute times. I often cannot cross Grant Road at Levin any more and must go where there is a signal.*
- *This is not a question, but please advise the audience about El Camino Hospital project and the fact that it will greatly impact Grant Road.*

Grant Road is a major arterial serving not only El Camino Hospital but also traffic between south of Mountain View and Highway 237, Highway 85 and El Camino Real.

The traffic signals along Grant Road from Oak Avenue in Los Altos to Bentley Square are interconnected (synchronized) to allow traffic to flow with minimum delay. This interconnect system is monitored and adjusted, as necessary, to ensure smooth traffic flow. Daily traffic volumes on Grant Road have remained relatively constant for the past 12 years. Near Covington Road there are approximately 24,000 vehicles per day on Grant Road. This traffic volume increases to approximately 32,000 vehicles per day near El Camino Real.

To address concerns regarding increased traffic from the new El Camino Hospital project, a Traffic Impact Analysis study was performed in accordance with Santa Clara County Congestion Management Agency guidelines. This study determined the new Hospital facilities and buildings would generate approximately 1,600 additional trips per day to the Hospital area. Peak hour traffic is projected to increase by only 106 trips in the AM peak hour and 163 trips in the PM peak hour. This increased traffic will have no significant impacts on Grant Road. The level of service for the intersections does not change and the amount of additional delay at the intersections is less than 2 seconds.

If you notice a problem along Grant Road, please contact Dennis Belluomini, City Traffic Engineer, or Mike Vroman, Senior Traffic Engineer, at (650) 903-6311.

20. Radar Signs on Levin

- *What happened to the radar signs that were going to be put on Levin Avenue to slow down speeders? People are still going above the speed limits.*
- *Levin Avenue residents and surrounding residents voted back in November 2003 to have an electronic signal installed that would help reduce the speed on Levin Avenue. When will that be installed?*

On Thursday, August 26, the City opened bids on a project to install eighteen radar speed limit signs near schools. The purchase and installation of radar speed limit signs on Levin Avenue will be done as part of the project. These signs will be installed in the Fall 2004.

21. Stevens Creek Trail

- *What is the current timing for construction of Phase 4 of the Stevens Creek Trail, especially the terminal end at Mountain View High School?*

The first segment of Reach 4 to be constructed, between Yuba Drive, the current terminus, and El Camino Real, will begin within two years. There is no schedule for construction of segments farther south, especially the portion of the Stevens Creek Trail connecting with Mountain View High School as it is the end of the trail in Mountain View.

- *As for the trail construction, is there any phasing with Mountain View-Los Altos High School District on the construction of the new Alta Vista Campus at the trails end (i.e. are the High School and trail being built at the same time or sequentially).*

The Alta Vista School will begin construction this fall while the portion of the Stevens Creek Trail at Mountain View High School is yet unscheduled, so there will not be any construction conflicts.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6350

1. *There is a great deal of speeding and dangerous driving around the High School, especially at lunchtime and after school. Can there be additional police presence during these periods?*

Unsafe driving can occur around Mountain View High School and the Police Department is committed to enforcing and educating motorists who choose to drive unsafely around the school. The Police Department will be deploying its radar trailer (used to deter speeders) and, as time and staffing permits, increase traffic enforcement and Police presence. Residents are encouraged to call the Police Department when there is traffic concerns so that they may be addressed.

2. *I have noticed an increase in the number of panhandlers in Mountain View in recent weeks. What ordinances (and services) does the City have pertaining to these folks?*

There is not a specific law prohibiting panhandlers in some areas. However, it is unlawful for them to conduct their activities in areas such as the median of state highways, which includes El Camino Real. In these cases, the Police Department does take enforcement action. Also, an individual business owner may ask for Police assistance when an individual is panhandling on their property. Police officers will assist the business owner in asking the person who is panhandling to leave and if the person returns, they may be subject to arrest for trespassing.

The Police Department will always respond to citizen concerns about a person that is believed to be committing a crime or acting suspiciously. If it is determined that a person is not violating any type of statute, no enforcement action will be taken. However, a police officer may refer this person to community resources that provide food, clothing and shelter, such as the Community Services Agency.

COMMENTS

1. Thanks for the neighborhood meetings.
2. Do not hold neighborhood meetings during the Olympics.